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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE HEALTH OF THE

West Lancashire Rural District

DURING THE YEAR

1947

BY

J. GORDON HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

E. SIDEBOTHAM, 25/27, WIEND
WIGAN:

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WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1947.

Chairman ... H. STAFFORD MORETON, J.P.
Vice-Chairman ..... F. V. KING.

Aintree	Arthur Davenhill, J.P.
Altcar	Stanley Ashcroft.
Aughton	Arthur C. Roodhouse, J.P. John Leigh. P. Dodgson Kennedy.
Bickerstaffe	James Heyes. John Stockley.
Bispham	T. J. Glover.
Downholland	Job Sumner.
Ford	Patrick J. Reilly.
Halsall	John P. Cropper. H. J. L. Neale.
Hesketh-with-Becconsall ...	Herbert Parkinson, J.P.
Ince Blundell	Chas. F. Kuhl.
Lydiate	Wm. H. Evans.
Maghull	Samuel H. Hudson. H. Stafford Moreton, J.P. A. W. Glenn.
Melling	Thomas Sergeant.
Netherton	E. M. Houghton, J.P. F. V. King.
North Meols	J. Sharrock. J. Taylor.
Rufford	Harvey Haigh.
Scarisbrick	James Sephton. John Rimmer.
Sefton	F. W. Preston. J. Alfred Birch.
Simonswood	R. E. Gregson.
Tarleton	John Hunter. Rev. L. N. Forse.
Thornton	Ernest Letter.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. John Leigh - - - - Chairman

Mr. A. W. Glenn - - - Vice-Chairman

All Members of the Council.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. A. C. Roodhouse, J.P. - Chairman.

Mr. John Leigh - - - Vice-Chairman.

Councillors J. Heyes, J. Stockley, J. Sumner, C. F. Kuhl, W. H. Evans, S. H. Hudson, H. S. Moreton, J.P., A. W. Glenn, F. V. King, J. Sephton, and A. Davenhill, J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

J. G. HAILWOOD, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H:

Sanitary Inspectors and Meat Inspectors.

James Ainsworth, Chief Inspector

R. W. Bingham.

J. Hailwood.

Housing Survey Assistants

James Bell.

F. Pennington.

Clerical Staff.

Miss B. Snelgrove.

Miss D. K. McCarthy.

All are whole-time officials.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Second Annual Report on the Health of the West Lancashire Rural District.

Certain aspects of the Vital Statistics require comment. The Birth Rate remains high and the actual number of births was the highest ever recorded in West Lancashire. At the same time the Infant Mortality Rate fell again to 36, a considerable improvement on the figure for 1946 and only once bettered in the previous records of the District. It is pertinent to point out that the Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants was 173 per 1,000 Illegitimate Births—surely an indication that Infant Deaths are closely connected with lack of adequate care and a proper home.

The Death Rate was 10.3 compared with 11.2 a year ago and comparing favourably with the figure of 12.0 for England and Wales, more especially when it is recalled that the severe weather of the early months of 1947 caused many deaths among the older members of the community.

The incidence of the infectious diseases calls for little comment except to refer to the outbreak of Anterior Poliomyelitis which spread throughout the country in the summer of 1947. Fortunately only 8 cases occurred in West Lancashire, all of a mild nature, and of which 6 recovered completely. I consider that it is purely fortuitous that the district escaped so lightly, and it must be emphasized that in the event of a similar epidemic, early diagnosis and treatment are all-important both in the reduction of paralysis and in the prevention of spread.

A number of cases of cervical adenitis were reported during the year, some of which were diagnosed as Tuberculous. On investigation these cases fell into three groups in different parts of the district, but in each group all the affected families had a common milk supply. Milk sampling and veterinary examination of the herd in each group brought to light a tuberculous cow which had to be destroyed.

I am much concerned at the amount of raw milk which is still consumed by children in the district and believe that, until all milk is heat treated before distribution, non-pulmonary tuberculosis, as well as certain other diseases, cannot be adequately controlled.

Th number of houses has continued to increase and a further 165 houses were built during the year, making a total of 394 houses built in the district since the war, 162 by the Council and 232 by private builders. By June, 1948, there had been completed a further 212 houses making one new house built for every 70 inhabitants of the district. Further details are given in the section relating to housing.

Main Water Supply is now provided to 11,867 houses of the 12,051 in the District or 98.4%, a highly satisfactory percentage for a rural area. However, there are still certain areas where a main water supply is badly needed and plans are in hand for bringing these onto the main supply at an early date.

Finally I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Health Committee for their continued interest in the Health of the District and also to all the members of the staff for their help and co-operation.

I am., Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

August, 1948. J. G. HAILWOOD.

Section A

STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR 1947.

	1947		1946
Area of the District (acres)	67,560	...	67,560
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	41,470	...	40,230
No. of inhabited houses according to Rate Books	12,128	...	11,917
Rateable Value	£259,915	...	£248,675
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,044	...	£979
Births	787	...	769
Deaths	430	...	452
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births	36	...	49

BIRTHS

There were 787 births recorded during the year, of which 393 were male and 394 female; and including 29 illegitimate births, 17 males and 12 females. The birth rate per 1,000 estimated population (mid 1947) was 18.9.

The total number of births registered during 1947 was the highest ever recorded in the Rural District of West Lancashire and was an increase of 18 over 1946, although the birth rate showed a slight decrease of 0.2 per 1,000 due to a material increase in population estimate. The rate for England and Wales was 20.5.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered during 1947 was 430, a decrease of 22 from the figure for 1946. The death rate was 10.3 per 1,000 estimated population compared with 11.2 for 1946, a decrease of 0.9 per 1,000. The figure compares very favourably with the general death rate for England and Wales of 12.0 per 1,000, especially when it is recalled that the severe opening months of 1947 caused a heavy death rate among the elderly.

Maternal Mortality.

The Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 births (live and still) was 2.50 compared with 3.78 in 1946, a decrease of 1.38. The figure for England and Wales was 1.17.

Infantile Mortality Rate.

There were 29 deaths of infants under one year of age giving an infantile mortality rate of 36 per 1,000 live births, a decrease of 13 on the figure for 1946. The rate for England and Wales was 41 per 1,000 live births.

It is of importance to record that of the 29 infant deaths, 5 were illegitimate infants. Thus the Death rate of legitimate infants was 31 per 1,000 live legitimate births, while the Death rate of illegitimate infants was 172 per 1,000 live illegitimate births, an indication of the rapid increase in Infant deaths under adverse conditions.

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of still births during 1947 was 12, of which 7 were male and 5 females. This is equivalent to a rate of 15 per 1,000 total live and still births.

There were no illegitimate still-births.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT, 1947.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
Typhoid Fever	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	1
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	10	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1
Influenza	—	1
Measles	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
Acute Inf. Encephalitis	—	—
Cancer	27	33
Diabetes	2	4
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	19	21
Heart diseases	79	53
Other circulatory diseases	6	6
Bronchitis	10	7
Pneumonia	15	5
Other respiratory diseases	—	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	5	—
Appendicitis	—	—
Other digestive diseases	5	7
Nephritis	6	6
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	1
Other maternal causes	—	1
Premature birth	3	—
Congenital causes	4	8
Suicide	2	2
Road traffic accidents	6	—
Other violent causes	6	3
All other causes	19	28
Total	229	201

	M.	F.		
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:—				
Legitimate	12	12		
Illegitimate	4	1		
			16	13
Still Births:—				
Legitimate	7	5		
Illegitimate	—	—		
			7	5

Section B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Pathological Reports.

Specimens of a simple nature, throat swabs, etc., are sent for examination at the E.M.S. Pathological Laboratory at the Ormskirk County Hospital. All other specimens are sent to the City Laboratories, Liverpool.

Two thousand, eight hundred and forty two nose and throat swabs were taken, of which 241 throat and 160 nose were found to be positive for Bacillus Diphtheriae.

Two specimens of blood were tested for the presence of the typhoid group of organisms, but proved negative.

Four specimens of faeces were tested for the presence of Bacillus Aertrycke, which was found to be present in one.

Four specimens of Cerebro-spinal fluid were tested from patients suffering from Acute Poliomyelitis, and were found to be positive.

Three Vaginal Swabs were tested for the presence of Bacillus Gonococci which was found to be present in one.

Hospital Accommodation.

There are no General Hospitals in the District, but patients are accommodated in the Ormskirk General Hospital, the Ormskirk County Hospital, which has a Maternity Block, or in the hospitals of the adjacent towns of Liverpool, Southport and Preston.

The Council maintained their own Isolation Hospital at Holly House, Aughton, but owing to the general reduction in cases of Infectious Disease throughout the country in recent years, it was decided to close this hospital and place it on a care and maintenance basis in August, 1946. At the same time an arrangement was made whereby cases of Infectious Disease from the West Lancashire Rural District would be admitted to the Ormskirk Isolation Hospital where necessary. It is now possible that the Aughton Hospital buildings will be taken over by the County Council and used as a Residential Home for Children.

A full account of the work carried out by the West Lancashire Isolation Hospital over 50 years was contained in the Annual Report for 1946.

AMBULANCE

The Local Authority provides ambulance facilities for infectious cases only. The Ormskirk General Hospital and also the County Hospital at Ormskirk each provide ambulances for accidents and general hospital cases. Ambulances belonging to the Merseyside Hospitals Council also operate in the area.

The parishes formerly served by Bootle and which are outside the area served from Ormskirk, now derive their ambulance facilities from the Non-County Borough of Crosby.

The northern parishes are catered for by voluntary ambulance organisations in the townships of North Meols, Tarleton and Hesketh Bank.

SUMMARY OF ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FROM THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1947.

ORMSKIRK INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

Admissions from West Lancashire:

Scarlet Fever	16
Diphtheria (including carriers)	22
Tonsilitis	3
Poliomyelitis	5
Erysipelas	1
Glandular Fever	1
Rheumatic Fever	2
Total	50

These admissions were from the following townships:

Aintree	One case of Poliomyelitis.
Altcar	One case of Scarlet Fever, three cases of Diphtheria and three cases of Diphtheria Carrier.
Aughton	One case of Diphtheria and one case of Rheumatic Fever.
Ford	One case of Poliomyelitis.
Halsall	One case of Tonsilitis.
Hesketh Bank ...	One case of Poliomyelitis.
Maghull	Seven cases of Scarlet Fever, four cases of Diphtheria, three cases of Diphtheria Carrier, two cases of Tonsilitis, one case of Erysipelas and one case of Glandular Fever.
Netherton ...	Three cases of Scarlet Fever, one case of Diphtheria, one case of Diphtheria Carrier and two cases of Poliomyelitis.
North Meols ...	Four cases of Diphtheria.
Rufford	One case of Diphtheria.
Scarisbrick ...	Four cases of Scarlet Fever, one case of Diphtheria and one case of Rheumatic Fever.
Thornton ...	One case of Scarlet Fever.

The outside work in connection with the hospital was as follows:—

For West Lancashire Rural District.

Journeys wih ambulance for patient	46
Journeys with ambulance for bedding	145
Houses attended for disinfection	111
No. of times disinfector used	69
Rooms sprayed	245
Schools sprayed	—
Articles stoved	465

For Skelmersdale Urban District.

Journeys with ambulance for patient	—
Journeys with ambulance for bedding	12
Houses attended for disinfection	7
No. of times disinfector used	4
Rooms sprayed	14
Articles stoved	48

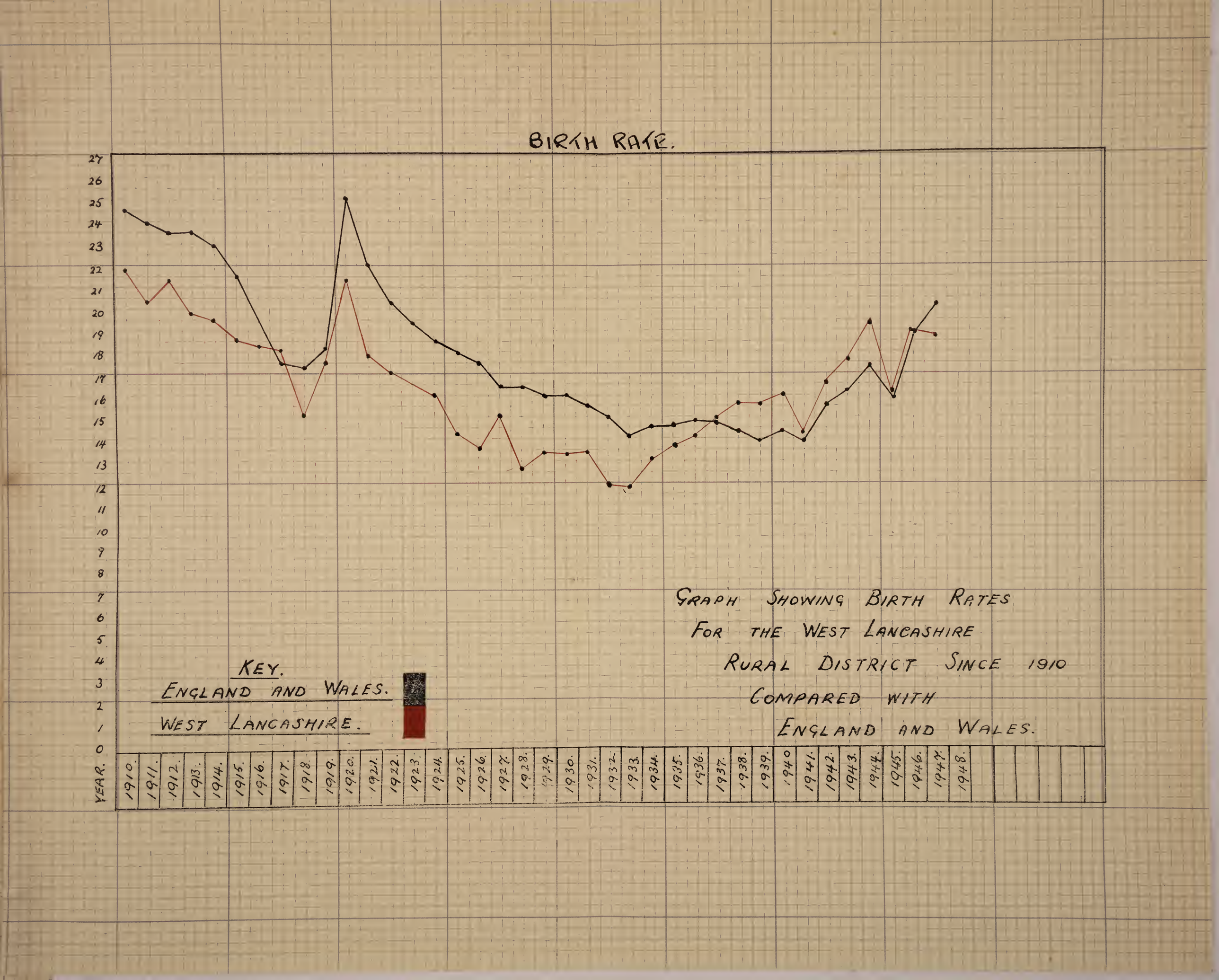
Other Districts.

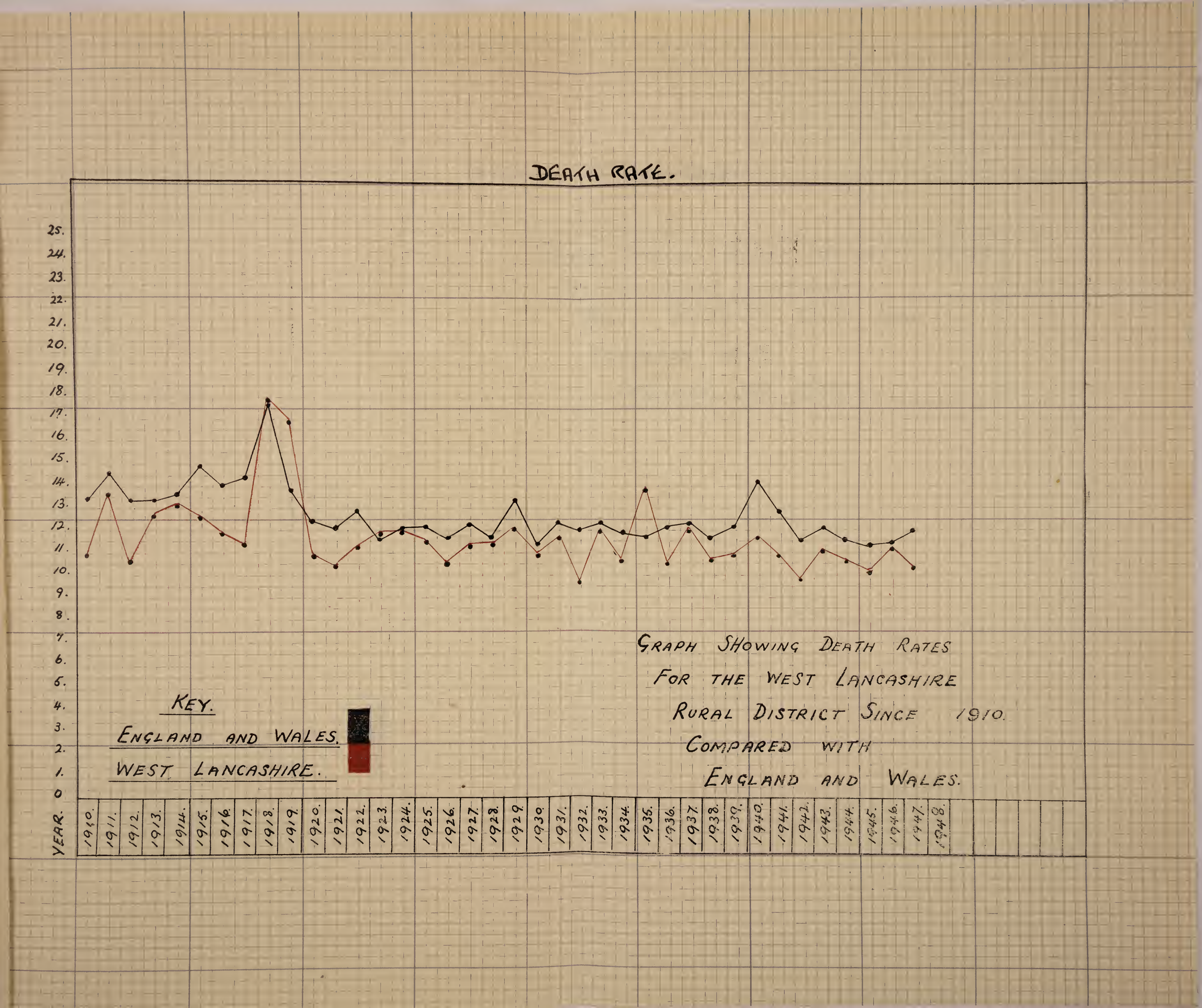
Ormskirk U.D.C.—Journeys for patient	24
Fazakerley—Journeys for patient	3
Heswall—Journey with patient	1

DEATHS IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.

Percentage of Deaths in Age Groups.

Five Year Period	Under 5 Years	AT AGES—YEARS 5	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	
1926-1930 ..... (Average)	8.85	1.85	2.5	4.0	4.5	7.4	9.8	20.7	27.6	12.7	100
1931-1935 ..... (Average)	11.34	0.9	2.78	3.46	4.48	6.24	11.34	19.92	25.14	12.4	100
1936-1940 ..... (Average)	9.58	1.2	1.8	3.58	4.62	7.46	11.56	21.26	24.82	14.12	100
1941-1945 ..... (Average)	8.48	1.0	1.7	3.0	4.8	6.86	10.8	21.2	26.6	15.4	100
1946	9.5	0.2	0.5	1.7	5.3	6.2	12.6	20.3	26.4	17.3	100
1947	7.5	0.7	2.6	2.1	4.6	6.0	12.6	15.3	30.9	17.7	100


BIRTH RATE.
27
26
25
24
23
22
21
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
11
10
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
YEAR.
1910. 1911. 1912. 1913. 1914. 1915. 1916. 1917. 1918. 1919. 1920. 1921. 1922. 1923. 1924. 1925. 1926. 1927. 1928. 1929. 1930. 1931. 1932. 1933. 1934. 1935. 1936. 1937. 1938. 1939. 1940 1941. 1942. 1943. 1944. 1945. 1946. 1947. 1948.
KEY.
ENGLAND AND WALES.
WEST LANCASHIRE.
GRAPH SHOWING BIRTH RATES
FOR THE WEST LANCASHIRE
RURAL DISTRICT SINCE 1910
COMPARED WITH
ENGLAND AND WALES.


DEATH RATE.
25.
24.
23.
22.
21.
20.
19.
18.
17.
16.
15.
14.
13.
12.
11.
10.
9.
8.
7.
6.
5.
4.
3.
2.
1.
0
YEAR.
1910. 1911. 1912. 1913. 1914. 1915. 1916. 1917. 1918. 1919. 1920. 1921. 1922. 1923. 1924. 1925. 1926. 1927. 1928. 1929. 1930. 1931. 1932. 1933. 1934. 1935. 1936. 1937. 1938. 1939. 1940. 1941. 1942. 1943. 1944. 1945. 1946. 1947. 1948.
KEY.
ENGLAND AND WALES.
WEST LANCASHIRE.
GRAPH SHOWING DEATH RATES
FOR THE WEST LANCASHIRE
RURAL DISTRICT SINCE 1910.
COMPARED WITH
ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN TOWNSHIPS.

The following table shows the population, number of births and deaths, and the rates per 1,000 in each township in the Rural District for the year 1947:—

TOWNSHIPS.	Estimated middle of Population 1947.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.	
		No. of Births.	Rate per 1,000.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.
Aintree	2382	40	16.5	29	12.2
Altcar	695	2	2.9	3	4.3
Aughton ...	3368	63	18.6	38	11.3
Bickerstaffe ...	1442	29	20.1	16	11.1
Bispham	246	4	16.2	4	16.2
Downholland ...	602	3	4.9	9	14.7
Ford	1152	20	17.3	12	10.4
Halsall	2176	37	17.0	25	11.5
Hesketh Bank ...	1769	25	14.1	20	11.3
Ince Blundell ...	510	8	15.7	8	15.7
Lydiate	1623	31	19.1	15	9.2
Maghull	8855	204	23.0	86	9.7
Melling	1428	28	19.6	18	12.6
Netherton ...	3443	67	19.1	22	6.4
North Meols ...	2601	58	22.3	36	13.8
Rufford	945	11	11.5	16	16.8
Scarisbrick ...	2967	63	21.2	25	8.4
Sefton	451	4	8.8	2	4.4
Simonswood ...	355	3	8.4	4	11.2
Tarleton	2814	60	21.3	26	9.2
Thornton ...	1646	27	16.4	16	9.7
Whole District .	41470	787	18.9	430	10.3

Particulars of Work Done by the various Nursing Associations operating in the West Lancashire Rural District, 1st January, 1947, to 31st December, 1947.

ASSOCIATIONS.	CASES NURSED.					VISITS.			TOTAL.	
	Midwifery	Maternity	Medical	Surgical	T.B.	General Nursing	Ante-Natal	T.B.	Cases	Visits
Eccleston and District (including the Parish of Bispham)	1	6	6	1	—	223	47	—	14	370
Formby District (including the Parishes of Altcar and Downholland	2	—	2	2	—	65	9	—	6	74
Great Crosby & District (including the Parish of Ince Blundell) ...	4	—	20	16	—	400	90	—	40	490
Kirkby, Lydiate & Melling (Parishes Lydiate, Melling & Simonswood)	42	14	31	14	—	2393	220	—	101	2613
Rainford & District (including the Parish of Bickerstaffe)	7	4	10	5	—	281	26	—	26	307
Scarisbrick District	—	—	45	65	—	2169	—	—	110	2169
Sefton & District (including Aintree, Netherton, Sefton, Lunt, Thornton and part of Ford)	17	14	111	67	1	377	377	17	210	771
Tarleton and District (including Tarleton, Rufford and Hesketh Bank)	36	15	95	238	—	5961	850	—	384	6811
Aughton District	—	—	49	49	—	2304	—	—	98	2304
Maghull District	—	—	60	26	4	3408	—	443	90	3851
North Meols District	—	—	37	46	—	2264	—	—	83	2264

MIDWIVES RESIDENT IN THE DISTRICT AT 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Miss I. K. Paisley, c/o "Brooklands," Carr Cross, Southport Road, Scarisbrick	S.C.M.
Mrs. E. Bibby, 160, Northway, Maghull	S.C.M.
Miss M. A. Bond, New Street, Halsall	S.C.M.
Mrs. J. E. MacKellar, Finger Post Cottage, Liverpool Road, Aughton	S.C.M.
Miss Ruth Freeman, District Nurse, "Burnside," Gorse Lane, Tarleton	S.C.M., S.R.N.
Miss A. Vidler, 94, Park Lane, Netherton	S.C.M., S.R.N.
Miss G. Johnson, District Nurse, "Burnside," Gorse Lane, Tarleton	S.C.M., S.R.N.
Miss A. V. Irwin, 137, Liverpool Road South, Maghull	S.C.M.
Miss B. Jackson, 94, Park Lane, Netherton	S.C.M., S.R.N.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—NURSING HOMES.

Mrs. A. L. M. Blogg, "Holmleigh," 215, Liverpool Road North, Maghull	One maternity case .
The Misses Mary A. Wharton and E. J. Jones, 32, Gainsborough Avenue, Maghull	Two maternity or medical cases.

VACCINATION OFFICERS.

Name.	District.
N. Bottomley, 5, Liverpool Road, Skelmersdale.	Bickerstaffe, Bispham, Scarisbrick, Simonswood.
N. C. Lyon, 74, Wigan Road, Ormskirk.	Altcar, Aughton, Downholland, Halsall, Lydiate, Maghull, Melling.
J. Webster, 2, Derby Street, Ormskirk.	Hesketh Bank, North Meols, Rufford, Tarleton.
H. D. Plevin, 43, Crosby Road South, Waterloo.	Ince Blundell, Thornton, Sefton including Lunt, Ford, Netherton and Aintree.

PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

Dr. H. W. F. Croft, Lynton, Tarleton.	Bispham, Hesketh Bank, Rufford, Tarleton, North Meols.
Dr. R. G. R. Burrows, Sefton View, Maghull.	Downholland, Lydiate, Maghull, Melling, Simonswood.
Dr. W. P. O'Regan, Mansion House, Ormskirk.	Aughton, Bickerstaffe, Halsall, Scarisbrick.
Dr. A. B. Sykes, Ashurst, Formby.	Altcar.
Dr. W. F. Jones, 255, County Road, Walton, Liverpool.	Aintree.
Dr. J. F. Webb, Newlyn, Crosby Road North, Seaforth.	Ince Blundell, Thornton.
Dr. W. H. Nowak, 2, Litherland Park, Litherland.	Sefton including Lunt, Ford, Netherton.

SCHOOL CLINICS

Litherland Clinic, Linacre Road.

Monday	10—12 a.m.	Dental.
	2— 4 p.m.	Dental.
	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Wilson and two nurses.
Tuesday	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments.
	2— 4 p.m.	Dental.
Wednesday ...	10—12 a.m.	Dental.
	2— 4 p.m.	Dental.
	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Marshall and two nurses.
Thursday ...	10—12 a.m.	Ophthalmic.
	10—12 a.m.	Orthopaedic. Nurse every Thursday. Surgeon attends second Thursday of each month only.
	2— 4 p.m.	Ante-natal. Dr. Mayeur and two nurses.
Friday	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments. Nurses only for dressings.

Maghull Clinic, Parish Institute.

Monday	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments. Nurse only for dressings.
Thursday ...	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Hailwood attends alternate weeks.
Friday	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments. Dr. Hailwood attends alternate weeks.

Ormskirk Clinic, General Hospital.

Monday	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments. Dr. Hailwood attends first and third Mondays of the month.
	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Hailwood and two nurses.
Tuesday	a.m. & p.m.	Orthopaedic. Nurse every Tuesday. Surgeon attends second Tuesday, p.m., in each month only.
Wednesday ...	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments. Nurse only for dressings.
Friday	a.m. & p.m.	Dental.

Lathom and Burscough, Old Council Offices, Lathom.

Thursday ...	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Hailwood attends alternate weeks.

Banks Clinic, Gravel Lane, Banks.

Wednesday ...	10—12 a.m.	Minor ailments (Alternate weeks only) —Dr. Wilson.
	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre (alternate weeks only)—Dr. Wilson.
Friday	a.m. & p.m.	Dental.

Jubilee Hall, Aintree.

Tuesday	2— 4 p.m.	Child Welfare Centre. Dr. Wilson attends monthly.

The following is a list of Schools in the district:—

Division No.	SCHOOL.	School No.	No. of children normally Resident in the District attending the school.
6	Hesketh-with-Becconsall C.E. ...	28	79 infants and juniors.
6	North Meols, Banks Primitive Methodist	24	141 infants and mixed.
6	North Meols, St. Stephens ...	25	99 infants and mixed.
6	Tarleton Mere Brow C.E. ...	26	50 infants and mixed.
6	Tarleton C.E.	27	50 infants, 65 juniors.
6	Tarleton Council		33 infants, 75 juniors, 103 seniors.
16	Halsall Central School	30	169 juniors and seniors.
16	Haskayne C.E.	31	8 infants and juniors.
16	Bickerstaffe C.E.	13	96 infants and juniors.
16	Maghull C.E.	16	450 infants and juniors.
16	Maghull Secondary Modern ...		357 juniors.
16	Maghull St. George's R.C. ...	17	127 infants and mixed.
16	Maghull Dover Road Infants ...		281 infants and juniors.
16	Melling (Aughton) R.C.	14	45 infants and juniors.
16	Melling C. of E.	15	109 infants and juniors.
16	Scarisbrick St. Mark's C.E. ...	32	14 infants, 17 juniors.
16	Scarisbrick St. Mary's R.C. ...	33	139 infants and mixed.
16	Scarisbrick Council	34	63 infants and juniors.
16	Aughton Christ Church	20	43 infants, 61 juniors.
16	Aughton Parochial	21	31 infants, 59 juniors.
16	Lydiate R.C.	19	76 infants and mixed.
16	Lydiate C.E.	18	91 infants and mixed.
16	Rufford C.E.	22	61 infants and mixed.
16	Rufford Holmeswood Methodist	23	36 infants and mixed.
16	Bispham Free Grammar	24	44 infants and mixed.
16	Aintree Temporary Council ...		212 infants and juniors.
17	Ince Blundell R.C.		51 infants and mixed.
17	Netherton R.C.		50 infants and mixed.
17	Netherton Temporary Counciil		304 infants and juniors.
19	Sefton Council		24 infants and mixed.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

It was not found necessary to close any of the schools during the year owing to the presence of infectious disease.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

At the Aintree Council School general improvements including replacement of concrete floors by composition floors, repairs to fabric and the provision of additional lavatory accommodation were carried out during the year.

There is flooding of the playgrounds and some huts become flooded in wet weather.

A permanent school has now been approved and will be commenced shortly.

The room temperature during the colder months in the schoolrooms of the Haskayne C.E. School is rarely above 40 degrees Fahrenheit. More adequate heating arrangements are required.

At the Lydiate R.C. School the playground requires re-surfacing as it is regularly flooded in the winter. Accommodation for the serving of meals is also necessary.

Although the Maghull Junior County School is still unsuitably accommodated in premises in Dover Road, a new school is now being built and it is hoped that these shops can be abandoned at an early date.

A stove installed in the Infants' room has improved the heating at the Melling C.E. School.

The present lavatory accommodation requires converting to water closets.

At the Netherton Council School three huts for use as classrooms have somewhat relieved the overcrowding.

Playgrounds at both the Banks Methodist and Banks St. Stephen's Schools require re-surfacing, as both become flooded in the winter-time.

At the Sefton Council School the playground is in a very bad condition. Flooding occurs regularly and necessitates the children wading to reach the only lavatory accommodation. Re-surfacing is urgently needed here.

Section C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE STATISTICS.

	Smallpox.	Enteric Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Diphtheria.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Poliomye-litis.	Malaria.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.
Cases	—	—	33	189	16	1	—	8	—	—	40	7	28
Deaths	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	20

The following table shows the number, monthly distribution, and nature of cases of Infectious Diseases coming under the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during 1947.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals	Removed to Hospital
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2	2	—	—	6	6	4	1	2	4	5	1	33	16
Diphtheria	2	6	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	2	16	16
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	7	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	—	—	8	7
Pneumonia	2	4	4	3	—	1	1	—	1	1	2	9	28	Not known
Measles	41	40	36	18	21	10	12	2	2	—	1	6	189	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	5	4	7	2	1	—	8	—	7	4	1	1	40	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Monthly Totals	52	56	49	24	29	22	27	6	19	10	9	20	323	40

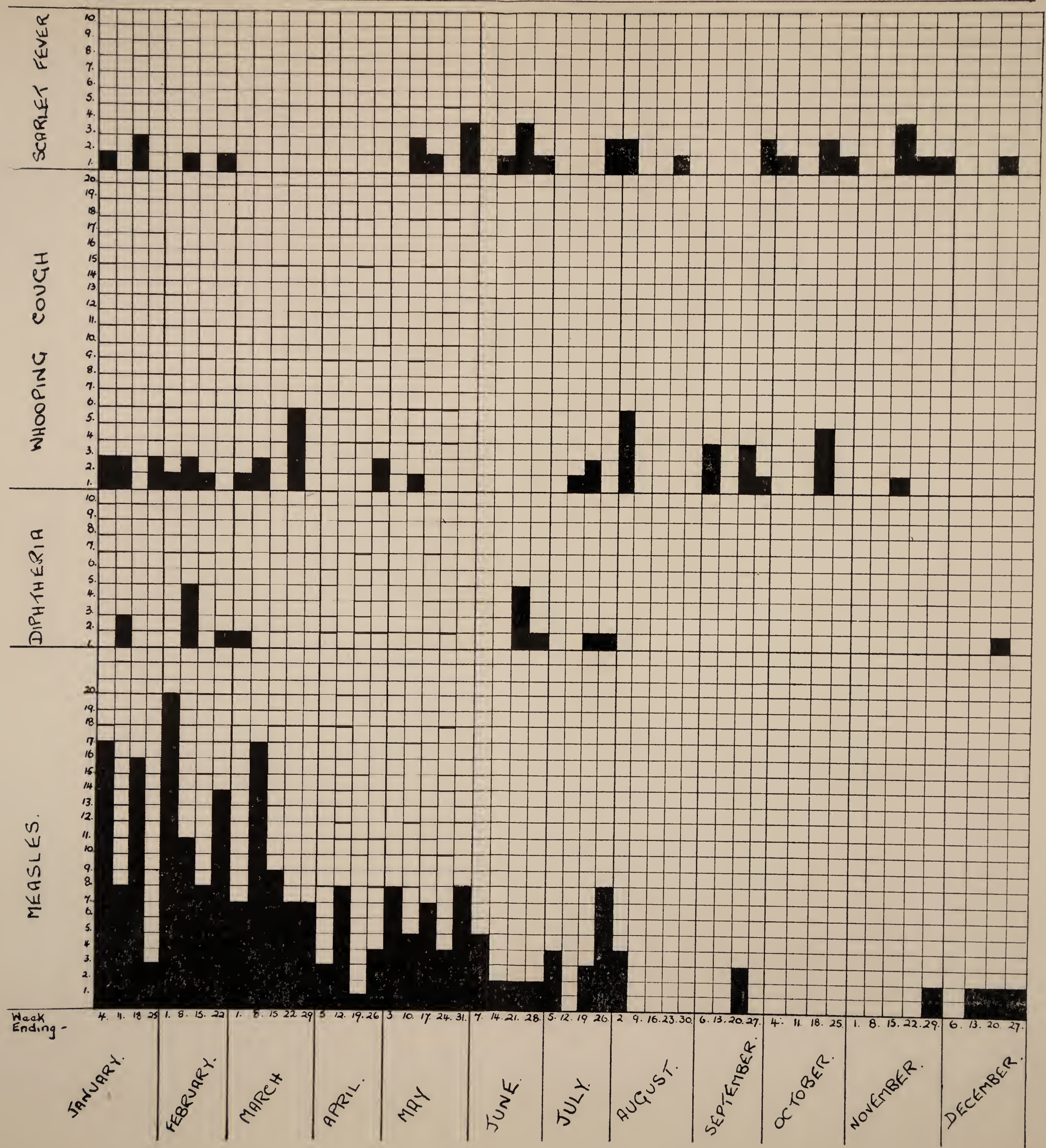
Table showing the number of cases of Infectious Disease occuring during the year in each township in the Rural District and the number of deaths.

1946	Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever		Whooping Cough		Erysipelas		Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Diarrhoea		Measles		Tuberculosis		TOTALS	
TOWNSHIP	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D	C	D
Aintree	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	5	5
Altcar	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	1	—	20	—
Aughton ...	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	4	1	11	3
Bickerstaffe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	1	—	14	—
Bispham ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downholland .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	2
Ford	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	—	3	—	24	2
Halsall	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	24	—	—	2	36	4
Hesketh Bank .	2	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	25	1
Ince Blundell .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	4	—
Lydiate	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	6	1
Maghull ...	5	5	4	—	5	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	8	—	15	7	40	15
Melling ...	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	1	10	3
Netherton ...	—	3	5	—	1	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	5	1	33	4
North Meols...	3	—	1	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	—	1	1	36	1
Rpfford ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	9	—
Scarisbrick ...	3	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	3	1	35	2
Sefton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Simonswood ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	2	7	2
Tarleton ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	2	1	32	1
Thornton ...	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	13	1
TOTALS ...	28	20	33	—	16	1	—	—	40	—	7	—	1	1	—	1	—	5	189	—	48	20	362	47

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1947

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases at all Ages	Total Cases Notified — Years: Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	Total Deaths	Hospital: Total Cases removed to Hospital	Hospital: Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	33	—	—	2	2	2	14	10	1	1	1	—	—	—	16	—
Diphtheria	16	—	—	2	—	—	5	5	2	—	2	—	—	1	16	1
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	189	7	15	21	29	22	85	4	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	40	3	5	4	6	9	11	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	28	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	1	4	2	12	4	20	Not known	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	8	—	—	1	—	1	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	36	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	13	7	5	3	18	11	3
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12	—	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	4	1	1	—	2	3	1
TOTALS	371	10	21	30	40	34	128	21	14	27	14	19	13	43	54	11

WEEKLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1947.



DI

Number of persons, in age
to be Schick Negative:—

Age	1933	1934*	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1
Under 1 Year	—	—	3	2	3	1	1	
1 Year	—	4	6	12	18	13	7	
2 ,,	2	6	3	10	22	21	14	
3 ,,	8	4	14	11	15	18	10	
4 ,,	12	13	11	6	38	30	21	
5 ,,	63	86	43	72	103	75	36	1
6 ,,	78	41	22	60	63	71	32	
7 ,,	67	41	14	40	46	46	16	
8 ,,	76	28	21	36	41	40	12	
9 ,,	80	30	18	15	33	29	16	
10 ,,	59	27	22	22	17	30	12	
11 ,,	75	19	22	15	22	18	11	
12 ,,	58	23	9	19	16	26	5	
13 ,,	44	28	11	10	5	7	3	
14 ,,	8	3	3	4	2	1	—	
15 years and over	1	—	1	5	1	2	2	
Total	631	353	223	339	445	428	198	5

* November, 1932, to December, 1933.

DIPHTHERIA.

Number of persons, in age groups, completely immunised, or found to be Schick Negative:—

Age	1933	1934*	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	
Under 1 Year	—	—	3	2	3	1	1	2	14	41	30	22	17	25	85	
1 Year	—	4	6	12	18	13	7	10	88	221	203	181	205	175	186	Total under 5 years at end of 1947.
2 ,,	2	6	3	10	22	21	14	24	101	173	71	47	76	36	34	
3 ,,	8	4	14	11	15	18	10	33	97	137	55	17	23	23	28	1140
4 ,,	12	13	11	6	38	30	21	24	102	144	63	26	13	16	17	
5 ,,	63	86	43	72	103	75	36	127	189	225	139	87	28	24	33	
6 ,,	78	41	22	60	63	71	32	81	157	124	90	51	19	13	17	Total 5-9 years at end of 1947.
7 ,,	67	41	14	40	46	46	16	57	111	66	51	9	11	12	11	
8 ,,	76	28	21	36	41	40	12	38	68	57	52	14	5	7	12	2070
9 ,,	80	30	18	15	33	29	16	28	69	50	31	7	6	5	11	
10 ,,	59	27	22	22	17	30	12	35	63	38	29	9	3	1	11	
11 ,,	75	19	22	15	22	18	11	11	45	29	36	3	7	4	3	Total 10-14 years at end of 1947.
12 ,,	58	23	9	19	16	26	5	5	39	31	28	3	3	1	2	
13 ,,	44	28	11	10	5	7	3	13	36	12	14	5	2	4	1	2274
14 ,,	8	3	3	4	2	1	—	12	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	
15 years and over	1	—	1	5	1	2	2	7	2	3	—	—	2	—	1	Total over 15 years at end of 1947. 2767
Total	631	353	223	339	445	428	198	507	1181	1352	892	483	420	346	453	8,251

* November, 1932, to December, 1933.

DIPHTHERIA.

Central Clinics are held at certain of the schools in the Rural District where children from the neighbouring schools attend for immunisation treatment, together with pre-school children from the surrounding districts. In addition, a fortnightly clinic is held at the Ormskirk Council Offices, a monthly clinic at the Maghull Parish Institute and a fortnightly clinic at the Banks School Clinic.

Diphtheria incidence increased a little during the year, sixteen cases being notified, of which four were over school age. Nine carriers were discovered. There was one death of a child under 5 years of age, who had not been immunised.

DIPHTHERIA IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT, 1937-1947.

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases	33	34	37	20	40	25	12	12	7	6	16
Deaths	1	2	5	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Total Number of Children who have completed a full course of Immunisation up to and including 31st December, 1947.

	Age Groups		Total under 15 years.
	0-4 years.	5-14 years.	
Total Population in Age Group	3373	5511	8884
Total Number Immunised ...	1140	5041	6181
Percentage	33.8%	91.5%	68.4%

DIPHTHERIA INCIDENCE DURING 25 YEARS.

5 Year Periods	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & up	TOTAL at all ages
1921-1925 ...	—	—	1	5	2	16	13	3	5	2	1	—	48
1926-1930 ...	1	3	5	3	9	57	31	13	17	3	2	1	145
1931-1935 ...	—	3	3	3	3	25	28	19	15	5	—	1	105
1936-1940 ...	—	—	4	9	6	48	27	13	18	3	1	—	129
1941-1945 ...	2	1	2	5	10	30	10	8	15	3	3	—	89
1946	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—	6
1947	—	—	2	—	—	5	5	2	—	2	—	—	16
PERCENTAGES													
1921-1925 ...	—	—	2	14	4	34	28	6	10	4	2	—	
1926-1930 ...	1	2	3	2	6	39	21	9	12	2	2	—	
1931-1935 ...	—	3	3	3	3	25	26	18	15	5	—	1	
1936-1940 ...	—	—	3	7	5	37	21	10	14	2	1	—	
1941-1945 ...	2	1	2	6	12	33	12	10	16	3	3	—	
Average 25 years	0.6	1.2	2.6	5.6	6	33.2	21.6	10.6	13.4	3.2	1.6	0.4	
1946	—	—	17	17	—	—	32	—	17	17	—	—	
1947	—	—	12.5	—	—	31.2	31.3	12.5	—	12.5	—	—	

Particulars of Work Done in Connection with Immunisation against Diphtheria since the Commencement of the Scheme in November, 1932, to 31st December, 1947.

School	Year	Number of acceptances	Total on Register.	% of children actually in school 31.12.47 who have completed course.	Received complete diphtheria course.	Diphtheria course not completed.	No. of children given booster dose.	Remarks.
Aintree Council ...	1940-46	161			149	11	70	3 absent for and 2 refused 2nd injection.
	1947	2	212	68.0	2	—	63	
Aughton Christ	1932-46	218			213	5	21	4 positive, 1 left before completing, 1 not allowed to complete course, 2 absent for 2nd injection.
Church	1947	7	104	44.2	7	—	16	
Aughton Parochial .	1932-46	132			124	8	44	1 positive, 2 absent for and 1 refused 2nd injection.
	1947	3	90	90.0	2	1	31	1 absent for 2nd injection.
Bickerstaffe C.E. ...	1932-46	261			248	13	39	2 positive, 1 refused and 1 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	2	96	94.8	1	1	31	1 absent for 2nd injection.
Bispham Free	1932-46	101			94	7	24	
Grammar	1947	—	44	80.0	—	—	8	
Haskayne C.E. ...	1932-46	56			52	3	—	
	1947	1	8	87.5	1	—	6	
Halsall Central ...	1932-46	322			298	24	57	2 positive, 2 absent for and 1 refused 2nd injection.
	1947	3	169	91.1	2	1	38	1 parent refused 2nd injection.
Hesketh Bank C.E.	1932-46	126			121	5	6	1 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	5	79	70.0	5	—	19	
Ince Blundell R.C.	1932-46	90			80	10	20	1 absent for and 1 parent refused 2nd injection.
	1947	3	51	88.2	2	1	14	1 parent refused 2nd injection.
Lydiate R.C. ...	1932-46	113			103	10	23	3 positive, 1 treated previously by us.
	1947	—	76	61.8	—	—	15	
Lydiate C.E. ...	1932-46	111			107	4	16	
	1947	5	91	48.3	5	—	15	
Maghull C.E. Junior	1932-46	651			623	29	78	10 positive, 4 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	16	450	61.8	14	2	154	1 refused and 1 absent for 2nd injection.
Maghull	1932-46	88			81	7	87	2 absent for 2nd injection, 17 treated previously by us, 1 treated in hospital.
Secondary Modern	1947	1	357	88.5	1	—	77	
Maghull R.C. ...	1932-46	175			153	22	45	6 absent for 2nd injection, 1 treated previously by us.
	1947	4	127	89.0	4	—	44	
Maghull Dover Road	1942-46	98			96	2	50	1 absent for and 1 refused 2nd injection, 4 treated previously by us.
	1947	4	281	81.8	4	—	160	

Melling C.E. ...	1932-46	202			189	13	26	3 absent for 2nd injection, 2 treated previously by us.
	1947	1	109	88.0	1	—	36	
Melling R.C. ...	1932-46	95			88	7	26	6 absent for 2nd injection, 1 treated previously by us.
	1947	1	45	86.7	1	—	5	
Netherton R.C. ...	1932-46	155			143	12	11	6 positive, 3 absent for 2nd injection, 2 treated previously by us.
	1947	3	50	80.0	3	—	16	
Netherton Council .	1940-46	124			110	9	68	5 not treated as they were Schick negative, 3 absent for and 1 left before 2nd injection, 4 treated previously by us.
	1947	7	304	43.1	7	—	42	
Rufford C.E. ...	1932-46	92			86	5	10	1 positive, 1 had no injections, 6 treated previously by us, 2 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	4	61	75.4	4	—	15	
Holmeswood Methodist	1932-46	66			61	3	8	3 treated previously by us.
	1947	2	36	100.0	2	—	8	
Banks St. Stephens	1932-46	96			90	5	17	2 positive, 3 treated previously by us.
	1947	14	99	45.4	14	—	8	
Banks P. Methodist	1932-46	127			108	19	30	4 treated previously by us.
	1947	19	141	67.4	19	—	15	
Scarisbrick Council .	1932-46	62			59	3	10	2 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	4	63	87.3	4	—	14	
Scarisbrick St. Mark's	1932-46	106			97	9	6	5 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	—	31	80.7	—	—	—	
Scarisbrick R.C. ...	1932-46	185			169	16	23	1 positive, 8 absent for 2nd injection, 9 treated previously by us.
	1947	2	139	69.0	2	—	17	
Sefton Council ...	1932-46	118			105	8	6	2 had no injections, 3 treated previously by us, 1 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	5	24	87.5	5	—	11	
Tarleton Mere Brow	1932-46	98			84	13	16	1 treated after preliminary test, 3 absent for 2nd injection, 1 treated previously by us.
	1947	2	50	70.0	2	—	6	
Tarleton C.E. ...	1932-46	160			153	8	13	4 treated previously by us, 3 absent for 2nd injection.
	1947	1	115	87.0	1	—	26	
Tarleton Council ...	1932-46	226			203	22	48	1 immunised after preliminary test, 2 positive, 1 treated previously by us, 1 parent refused 2nd injection.
	1947	5	211	73.0	3	2	33	2 absent for 2nd injection.
TOTALS ...	1932-46	4615			4287	313	898	11 immunised after preliminary test, 5 had no injections, 35 positive, 64 absent for 2nd injection, 2 left before and 8 refused 2nd injection, 64 treated previously by us, 1 treated in hospital.
	1947	126	2713	72.8	118	8	943	3 refused and 5 absent for 2nd injection.

	Children. Pre-School	Children attending Schools elsewhere.	Scarlet Fever Patients in hospital.	Adults.
1932-46	2,662	106	92	9
1947	350	—	—	1

TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS COMPLETELY IMUNISED — 7,625.

SCARLET FEVER

Thirty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year.

All cases were of a mild type, but it was necessary to remove 16 of them to hospital. The general policy is to remove to hospital such cases of Scarlet Fever as are living under over-crowded conditions, or in such circumstances that they become conveyors of infection through inefficient isolation.

The following table shows the incidence and mortality from Scarlet Fever during the past ten years.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases ...	128	103	38	50	12	66	75	121	57	38
Deaths ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MEASLES

During the year 189 cases of Measles were notified. This was a slight increase on the figure for 1946 due to a mild epidemic of the disease in the first four months of the year.

The following table indicates the incidence and fatality of this disease during the past ten years:

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases ...	125	37	560	292	251	178	180	138	139	189
Deaths ...	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

WHOOPING COUGH

Forty cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year compared with 100 in 1946 and 36 in 1945.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

There was one notification received during the year and one death was recorded.

SMALLPOX

No cases of Smallpox occurred during the year.

PNEUMONIA

Twenty-eight cases of pneumonia were notified during 1947, a decrease of 10 on the figure for 1946. Deaths from pneumonia numbered 20.

There are no facilities locally for the typing of pneumococci and for the provision of appropriate type sera, such work being of necessity performed in one of the large towns adjacent to the District.

ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS

During the summer of 1947, the biggest epidemic of Anterior Poliomyelitis ever known spread throughout the country. West Lancashire largely escaped, but eight cases were recorded late in the epidemic. All but one were treated in hospital. Six cases recovered completely, while two were left with some residual paralysis, although a recent follow-up has shown that each of these cases has continued to improve and now has a slight disability only. There were no deaths.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Summary of notifications under the Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations, 1930) received during 1947:—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5—10	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
25—35	6	3	2	2	—	2	—	—
35—45	4	2	1	—	3	2	—	1
45—55	3	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
55—65	1	1	—	1	1	2	—	—
65 and upwards	1	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
Totals ..	22	14	6	6	10	8	1	1
	36		12		18		2	

The Urban Districts of Ormskirk and Skelmersdale and the Rural District of West Lancashire are included in the County Dispensary Area No. 5, with Headquarters at the Dispensary, "Ellesmere," Crosby Road North, Waterloo. Dispensary Sessions are held there on Mondays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m. X-ray examinations are performed on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock. Evening consultations may be arranged by appointment. Dr. C. Berry is the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for the area, and has, as his Staff, two Assistant Tuberculosis Officers and six Tuberculosis Nurses.

A Pulmonary Hospital of 52 beds is situated at Rufford.

NOTIFICATIONS ON FORM 1 BY MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HOSPITALS.

	Public Assistance Hospital.	Sanatoria and Pulmonary Hospitals.	Military and General Hospitals.
Pulmonary:			
Male ...	—	13	—
Female ...	—	7	1
Non-Pulmonary:			
Male ...	—	—	4
Female ...	—	—	1

The following table is an analysis of the occupations of the 48 new cases of Tuberculosis notified during 1946:—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Occupation.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Naval Rating	2	—	—	—
Soldier	1	—	—	—
Aircraftsman	1	—	—	—
Child (0-5 years)	—	—	1	1
School child (5-14 years)	1	—	2	2
Civil Servant	—	—	—	1
Student	1	—	—	—
Clerk	—	2	—	1
Engineer	1	—	—	—
Insurance Agent	1	—	—	—
Builder	1	—	—	—
Joiner	1	—	—	—
Motor Mechanic	—	—	1	—
Postman	1	—	—	—
Watchmaker	—	—	1	—
Transport Driver	1	—	—	—
Miner	1	—	—	—
Farm Labourer	1	—	—	—
Builder's Labourer	1	—	—	—
Stores Assistant	1	—	—	—
Housewife	—	5	—	1
Nurse	—	2	—	—
Mentally Defective (adult) ...	1	1	1	—
No occupation	2	1	—	—
Occupation unknown ...	3	3	—	—
	22	14	6	6

In twenty-one houses inspected during the year by reason of tuberculosis inmates, 12 cases were found not to be sleeping in separate bedrooms, and in each of these cases 8 were not even sleeping in separate beds; 9 cases slept in separate bedrooms.

Section D.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.— WATER SUPPLY.

The following table summarises the water supplies in the Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

PARISHES.	SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC MAIN.								OTHER SUPPLIES		TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES AND PERCENTAGES	
	Upholland Urban District Council	Wigan Rural District Council	Liverpool Corporation	Ormskirk Urban District Council	St. Helens Corporation	Preston Corporation	Southport & Dist. Water Board	TOTALS	Wells, etc.	Increase or Decrease	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES	Percentages
Aintree	—	—	826	—	—	—	—	826	—	—	826	100
Altcar	—	—	—	—	—	—	171	171	25	—	196	87.2
Aughton	—	—	—	—	2	—	992	994	6	—	1000	99.4
Bickerstaffe ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	353	359	8	—	367	97.8
Bispham	—	57	—	1	—	—	—	58	8	—	66	87.9
Downholland ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	162	162	11	+ 1	173	93.6
Ford	—	—	342	—	—	—	—	342	—	—	342	100
Halsall	—	—	—	—	—	—	582	582	19	—	601	96.8
Hesketh Bank ...	—	—	—	—	—	535	—	535	2	—	537	99.6
Ince Blundell ...	—	—	136	—	—	—	—	136	1	—	137	99.2
Lydiate	—	—	—	—	—	—	490	490	27	- 1	517	94.7
Maghull	—	—	—	—	4	—	2673	2677	14	—	2691	99.4
Melling	—	—	1	—	366	—	—	367	6	—	373	98.4
Netherton	—	—	957	—	—	—	—	957	—	—	957	100
North Meols ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	713	718	18	—	736	97.5
Rufford	—	—	—	301	—	—	—	301	4	- 1	305	98.7
Scarisbrick ...	—	—	—	6	—	—	783	789	22	—	811	97.3
Sefton	—	—	104	—	—	—	—	104	6	—	110	94.5
Simonswood ...	—	—	—	—	64	—	—	64	4	—	68	94.1
Tarleton	—	—	—	2	—	786	—	788	3	—	791	99.6
Thornton	—	—	447	—	—	—	—	447	—	—	447	100
Totals	6	57	2813	310	436	1326	6919	11867	184	- 1	12051	98.4%

TABLE SHOWING MATTERS DEALT WITH BY SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1947.

	Public Health Act, 1936. Section 92.						Water Supply (P.H. Act, 1936).			Food and Drugs Act, 1938.								Factories Act, 1937.				
	Premises Inspected	Nuisances Found	Nuisances Abated	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Reinspections	Sec. 137	Sec. 138	Samples Taken	Cowsheds Inspected	Dairies Inspected	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Milk Samples Taken	Food Premises Visited	Food Condemned	Revisits	Factories Visited	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Schools Visited	Total Number of Visits
Aintree	85	105	115	65	—	146	22	—	—	3	3	—	—	1	12	18 lbs.	—	9	1	1	1	282
Altcar	4	6	6	4	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	2	2	—	18
Aughton	81	233	156	73	—	175	1	—	1	12	12	—	—	8	26	5 lbs.	2	25	—	—	2	345
Bickerstaffe ...	1	2	2	1	—	2	—	—	5	5	5	1	1	3	—	—	1	10	—	—	1	33
Bispham	2	2	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	6	6	1	1	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	1	22
Downholland ...	7	5	5	3	—	5	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	7	—	4	5	1	1	1	37
Ford	2	3	3	2	—	2	8	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	22
Halsall	43	68	55	39	—	53	4	—	—	17	19	3	3	—	4	—	4	14	1	1	1	159
Hesketh Bank ...	31	34	37	23	—	43	8	—	—	14	14	2	2	—	10	2 lbs.	3	17	1	1	1	141
Ince Blundell ...	1	2	—	1	—	1	18	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	36
Lydiate	17	30	31	15	—	24	42	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	26 lbs	—	14	—	—	2	101
Maghull	70	85	107	66	—	171	14	—	—	4	8	—	—	6	35	3 cwt. 19 lbs.	—	36	2	2	5	349
Melling	11	19	17	9	—	17	7	—	—	2	2	1	1	6	21	11 cwt. 90 lbs.	2	11	2	1	2	81
Netherton	92	114	123	78	—	142	—	—	—	4	4	1	1	—	17	12 tons 11 cwt. 5 lbs.	1	16	3	3	2	278
North Meols ...	50	57	52	37	—	75	8	—	—	23	27	3	3	3	6	48 lbs.	4	26	1	1	2	224
Rufford	12	16	16	9	—	19	1	1	—	17	17	1	1	4	5	—	2	14	1	1	2	94
Scarisbrick	56	106	97	53	—	80	6	—	—	14	17	1	1	1	15	21 lbs.	3	30	1	1	3	225
Sefton	1	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	8	8	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	24
Simonswood ...	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	2	4	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	24	1	1	—	38
Tarleton	24	29	27	19	—	35	16	—	—	26	28	3	3	7	13	—	5	59	2	2	3	216
Thornton	4	7	5	3	—	5	10	—	—	8	8	—	—	2	—	—	6	1	1	—	—	44
Totals	595	925	808	504	—	1005	165	2	9	181	196	17	17	43	178	13 tons 7 cwt.	39	325	20	18	31	2769

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER.

Main Supplies.

Regular samples of all mains water supplies are taken throughout the year in order to ensure the purity of the supply. All samples during 1947 showed a pure and satisfactory water for human consumption.

Other Supplies.

Samples of water have been taken from wells and other local sources of water from time to time. Where these samples, on bacteriological examination, have proved to be unsatisfactory for human consumption, the householder has been advised and action has been taken to require an alternative supply of water to be provided.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The following conversions have been effected during the year:—

Privies to Waterclosets	12
Pails to Waterclosets	2
Privies to Pails	5
Fixed Receptacles to Metal Bins	19

SUMMARY OF CONVERSIONS FOR THE YEARS 1938—1947.

Year.	Privies to Water Closets.	Pails to Water Closets.	Privies to Pails.	Ashpits to Bins.
1938 ...	47	7	15	74
1939 ...	29	—	12	41
1940 ...	10	2	13	4
1941 ...	1	—	—	1
1942 ...	5	26	18	19
1943 ...	10	1	4	9
1944 ...	5	—	32	34
1945 ...	4	9	17	4
1946 ...	6	—	3	9
1947 ...	12	2	5	19

SANITARY CONVENIENCES, 1947.

	Closet Accommodation.			Refuse Accommodation.		
	W.C.'s	Pails.	Privies.	Dry Ashpits.	Privy Ashpits.	Bins.
Aintree	818	1	7	2	6	817
Altcar	113	16	67	12	65	112
Aughton	908	5	87	9	86	900
Bickerstaffe ...	98	76	192	14	192	174
Bispham	8	7	51	—	51	21
Downholland ...	39	13	119	4	119	44
Ford	322	6	14	—	14	328
Halsall	263	51	267	23	256	276
Hesketh Bank ...	240	136	161	2	159	361
Ince Blundell ...	82	1	54	23	49	56
Lydiate	378	28	105	20	105	386
Maghull	2629	14	48	9	48	2637
Melling	224	25	114	—	106	316
Netherton	948	—	9	—	9	948
North Meols ...	298	274	149	—	148	563
Rufford	166	62	75	—	75	246
Scarisbrick	410	60	332	6	332	518
Sefton	64	2	44	3	43	57
Simonswood ...	22	1	45	3	45	18
Tarleton	372	136	283	6	282	520
Thornton	428	1	18	—	17	428
Totals	8830	915	2241	136	2207	9726

Section E.

HOUSING.

STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(i)	By the local authority	104
(ii)	By other local authorities	—
(iii)	By other bodies or persons	61

1. **Inspection of Dwelling-houses in the Rural District during the year:**

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ...	1241
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1848
(2)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	681
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	817
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	63
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	618

2. **Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice:—**

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 68

3. **Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—**

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners	—
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	98
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners	—
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C. Proceeding under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made 11

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 3

D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenemets or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit ... ... —

Progress on new housing during the year was maintained in spite of many difficulties of supply and 104 permanent brick built houses were completed in 8 parishes. Thus the total of 162 post-war houses, permanent and temporary, represents one new house for every 250 of the population. At the close of the year a further 392 were in various stages of construction in 16 parishes and new sites were being acquired.

The same procedure of presenting the applicants' cases to the Council's Selection Committee was carried out and a personal visit was made to each applicant's home before assessing the case.

The needs of agriculture and cases of great hardship caused by lack of amenities, especially in the case of sub-tenants, received priority consideration.

Under the Housing Act, 1936, eleven cottages were represented to the Council as being individually unfit and demolition orders were made.

The occupants of eight of these cottages were re-housed in new houses. Three of the cottages had been demolished before the end of the year.

In addition to the above, four families were re-housed who had been living in cottages condemned in 1938.

Such was the demand for houses during the year, however, that five condemned cottages were licensed for re-occupation for limited periods of six months, after minimum repairs had been done to render them reasonably habitable.

The Rural Housing Survey made good progress in 1947. Two assistants were appointed and trained by the Sanitary Inspectors. Detailed inspection of every house visited has been made and in many instances further visits have been made by the Sanitary Inspectors and notices served for the abatement of serious nuisances.

The results of the Survey for the year 1947 are shown:

Total number of houses inspected—1241—which have been placed in the following categories:

Category 1 (Fit in all respects)	560
Category 2 (Requiring minor repairs)	143
Category 3 (Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement)	344
Category 4 Appropriate for re-conditioning)	131
Category 5 (Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost)	63

The 63 houses in Category 5 are all occupied and in parishes where new Council houses are being erected. As and when the new houses are completed, the occupants of these cottages will be offered alternative accommodation.

The following illustrations, taken by Mr. R. W. Bingham, a member of the Sanitary Inspector's Staff, are examples of some of the old type of cottages still in existence in the Rural District, and the modern post-war houses now being erected.

These old cottages, built in the 18th and 19th centuries for agricultural workers, have served their purpose well. Many generations of farm-workers have been reared in them and they have had the advantage of being very well cared for by the tenants. The proceess of decay has thus been slow and their outward appearance deceptive.

The latest type of Council house provide all the amenities of a modern town house.

Hot and cold water supply, bathroom, large working kitchen with cooker and built-in furniture, water-borne sanitation and electric light are the chief amenities provided. The outbuildings on the side elevation include a coal place, additional W.C., a garden implement store and back porch.

Walls built of "mud and daub." Each cottage consists of a living-room and either one or two small bedrooms, which are very dark and lacking sufficient ventilation. The cobbled paving is the same level as the kitchen floors and the latter are "bricks on edge" or flags and very damp. A water tap is available in the kitchen, but no sink or drainage is provided. Artificial lighting is by means of oil lamps.

The "mud and daub" walls are perished and very damp. The small windows are solid framed sashes and it will be noted that there is no secondary means of access. Roof water finds its way to an earth channel on the right of the paving flags. Privies are provided in groups for three cottages.

Examples showing the type of house now being erected. One to four-bedroomed houses and flats are included. Arranged in suitable groups and carefully sited, it has been possible in many of the parishes to provide small sewage disposal plants to receive the additional drainage of the surrounding property.

Further examples of three-bedroom houses.

Section F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND PURVEYORS OF MILK.

During 1947 eighteen requests for limewashing of cowsheds had to be made. The work was carried out in all cases.

TABLE 1.

Number of Registered Dairies at end of 1947.	New Applications for Registration.	Registration Refused.	Dairies Removed from Register.	Number of Registered Dairies at end of 1947.
122	5	—	6	111

The total number of registrations is made up as follow:s—

87 cowkeepers, 8 retail purveyors resident in the district and 16 retail purveyors of milk non-resident.

Several requests from milk producers were received for information and guidance as to the requirements for obtaining a licence under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-46. In each case the necessary work involved the alteration and additions to existing buildings.

Milk Sampling:—

Forty-three samples of milk were taken by the Inspectors during the year.

Twenty six of the samples were for Tuberculosis, 25 of same proved to be negative and one positive.

Eleven samples were submitted for Methylene Blue reduction, nine proved satisfactory and two unsatisfactory.

Six samples were submitted for Haemolytic Streptococci, all of which proved negative.

All the examinations were carried out by the Pathological Department of the Liverpool University.

The total number of dairy and cowshed inspections made during the year was 377 and the approximate number of cows 1,350.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

As from July, 1940, this Act has been administered by the County Sanitary Inspectors.

The accompanying figures have been supplied by the County Council:—

Samples taken.	Number.	Prosecutions
Milk	154 ...	1
Miscellaneous	78 ...	—

BAKEHOUSES

There are sixteen bakehouses in the district, distributed as follows:—

Aughton 3, Bickerstaffe 1, Hesketh Bank 2, Maghull 4, Netherton 2, North Meols 1, Tarleton 3.

These premises are kept in a good condition.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.
INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

One Rodent Operative is employed by the Council and he has continued with the re-inspection of premises following the initial survey which commenced in 1944. In general, infestations found were of a minor character, only one case providing a major infestation. These infestations have been dealt with satisfactorily.

The treatment of sewers and sewage works have been dealt with by the Surveyor's Department and periodical re-treatment is carried out to prevent serious re-infestation.

The co-operation with the Lancashire War Agricultural Executive Committee continued during the year in respect of treatment of farm lands and ditches adjacent to dwelling houses and factories.

The following particulars reveal the work carried out during the year:—

(1) Number of premises surveyed 1432

(2) Number of premises found to be infested:—

(a) Reservoir infestations	—
(b) Major infestations	1
(c) Minor infestations	43

(3) Number of premises disinfected:—

(a) Reservoir infestations	—
(b) Major infestations	1
(c) Minor infestations	41

(4) **Sewers and Sewage Works.**

The Aughton and Thornton Sewage Works were found to be infested and disinfestation was carried out with excellent results. Maintenance treatments have been carried out to the sewers with vulnerable points (where found to be infested on preliminary survey).

(5) **Agricultural Lands.**

Owing to the rural characteristics of this area, co-operation, where necessary, is made at all times with the War Agricultural Executive Committee.

FACTORIES

The total number of Factories with and without mechanical power is 226. 325 inspections were made and 20 defects were found, 18 being remedied during the year.

1. Inspections.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	95	175	—	—
Factories not included above in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority	120	139	—	—
Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced	11	11	—	—
Totals	226	325	—	—

2. Defects Found.

Particulars of Defects	No. of Defects. Found	Abated.
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	13	13
Insufficient sanitary accommodation (Sec. 7)	6	4
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation (Sec. 7)	1	1
Totals	20	18

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

PLACE	Weight Condemned. Tons	Cwt.	Qtr.	lbs.
Aintree Cold Stores	1	17	1	19
Various Retail Shops and Food Manufacturing Premises	11	9	2	19
	13	7	—	10

A large quantity of this total consisted of bread, which was partly burned and partly under-baked due to an electric power break-down, resulting in thousands of loaves being rendered unfit for human consumption.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The Soap Works situated in Park Lane, Netherton, is under good management and the conditions are satisfactory.